

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 29 March 1955

SUBJECT 1. Military Maneuvers in Bohemia  
2. Call-Up of Draftees and Reservists

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Military Information from Western Bohemia.

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1.

September 1954 a military parade was held in Karlovy Vary in the presence of President Antonin Sapotocky, Minister of National Defense Alexej Cepicka, Soviet Marshal ~~XXXXXX~~, and other Czechoslovak and Soviet ~~XXXXXX~~. The parade marked the ~~XXXXXX~~ of large-scale maneuvers in ~~XXXXXX~~ Bohemia.

these maneuvers began on 29 September 1954 and went on for several weeks. They were allegedly the largest maneuvers in Czechoslovakia since WW II. All modern weapons were tested and live ammunition was used during these maneuvers, which were conducted realistically under actual combat conditions.

18 soldiers were accidentally killed in the combat actions. Some Chinese troops allegedly also participated in these maneuvers. The government representatives who observed the progress of the maneuvers were very pleased with their result.

2.

~~XXXXXX~~ were called up as reservists in September 1954 for refresher training to Karlovy Vary and took part in the maneuvers in the Doupovske Hory (N51/P79-89) military training area. They were mostly reservists from the class 1930, but also persons born in 1910 and 1913 were called up. ~~XXXXXX~~ most of the reservists were held for refresher training from 13 September till 5 October 1954. One of them, a doctor, was called up on 2 August 1954 to Slany (N51/F50) from where he was sent to Prague for a month and then for another month to the Doupovske Hory training area. He was discharged on 29 September 1954.

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3. The draft age in the Czechoslovak Army was lowered by one year, and persons born in 1935 were called up for active military service for the first time in October 1954. The induction of draftees from the classes 1930 to 1935 took place on 23 October 1954 for draftees called up to Prague, and on 29 October 1954 for others. These classes included draftees whose military service was postponed for various reasons. The discharge of old service-men took place on 14 and 15 October as well as on 21 and 22 October 1954.

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